

## PERINEAL PROSTATECTOMY

In removal of the prostate gland through the perineum, the preparation is much the same as when the route over the pubes is chosen, the main point of difference being in the time the purgative is administered. When operation by the perineal route is to be undertaken, it is well to give a purgative of two ounces of castor oil or laxol on the second night preceding operation, and an enema the following morning. In this way the effects of the purgation are all over before the sterilization is commenced. The balance of the preparation, cleansing the skin of the perineum, painting with iodine, etc., is carried out in a manner similar to that when the suprapubic route is chosen.

The earlier attempts at perineal enucleation were carried out through an external urethrotomy opening, but these have long since been abandoned as impracticable because of the lack of sufficient room. To accomplish the best results the posterior surface of the gland must be fully exposed by an elaborate perineal dissection. The varieties of the operation thus performed are about as numerous as the number of men who extensively do this work, each man having his own particular modification. Two particular features however stand out prominently in each and every modification; viz., the thorough exposure of the posterior surface of the gland, and the bringing of it well down into the wound where it can be seen as well as felt. If these two essentials are carried out, it makes little difference in what manner the further steps of the operation are completed.

The technic of perineal prostatectomy by an elaborate